# AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

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Publisher's Notice-All communications intended for this department should be addressed to Phor. J. P. Steller. Fort Worth, Tex.

#### THE TRISH POTATO IN TEXAS.

According to Commissioner Foster's third annual report of the agricultural bureau of Texas there was raised in this state in 1889 651,749 bushels of Irish potatoes, the selling value of which was \$439,-732. We have no figures for 1890, but the quantity raised in that year was evidently considerable larger than in the year preced-

This is cartainly a small showing for 2 state as large as Texas, and especially for one in which the frish potato succeeds so extremely well as here, but Commissioner Foster explains It all by saying: "Owing I to the inability of preserving them for any considerable length of time in this climate be crop first outlines, but beyond this their production is alliested to the demands of or farm on which they are cultivated."

Further on we shall offer a suggestion which if adopted will, we think entirely do away with that complained of inability to preserve trish potators for any consider able length of time in this climate.

The evenue viels of the Trish potato room Texas for 1989 (good, bad and indif Towns Trops Summed Logethery was 104 bud of to the more. Running in the two seeding seasons the average for the three cars was a little over one hundred and six with half (106.56) bushels to the acre. while the average yield for all the United States was only a little over eighty-seven (ST7) bushels. This shows the average steld in Texas to be largely, above the general average. But this plan of averaging glass one no kind of correct. Idea of a coun er committee. It is simply a drawback version yield for Toxics, of the Irish potato nderwood culture, may be safely set at ne figure between three and four hun

While a very forme per cent of Texas me eminently suited to the growth of since there are other advantage LOCAL COLD COMPOSITION STREET, THE STREET both, and as the numetime resolute an en test is formal in the fact that with us the men of high pointers intulyers was awalch to thirt, breed and alle la a hand to contest with the Colorado potato ivantages presented by a superior polateielding count; where there are no insecremains whatever to trouble his eron.

But, says one, what would we do with our Irish potatoes after we had pro The second thing is the preparation. The anced them, provided we should under take to produce them on a more extensive rate than herstofore.

Sell thear is placave a fair demand for good Isish polatoes. As truck farmers we could ship them to un early market at the North. We now have rational faell ties sufficient to enable it to do this easy cuough. Immense quantities might be Northern truck market had closed its coo. against us, could be sold in Pexas and other Southern states.

Of leourse, Texans would use Texas grown Irish potatoes were they here to be sed. We could not help using them, for the Texas product would be able to down all distant competition. Under the old management the Texas potators are not here, however, so we send off and buy our supplies from points a thousand miles of more away, paying a round sum to the common carriers for bringing them to us. The quantity of Irish potatoes consumed in Texas cout of home potato season," so called. Is immenso-enough two make forming pay? in almost any other state of the Union did they all come from one state. and even did that state confine her agricultural operations entirely to the production of heish potatoes. We are great Irish potato eaters here, and Texas is wondertully large.

And really there is no kind of good excuse for sending away for our Trish potaover-it is simply pouring immense amounts money into the coffers of some other orde for an acticle which Texas could discout home, and do it with more case, nd more proof. than admits of its prometion in the distant regions we are patrones

But according to Commissioner Fester, I ish petators cannot be preserved for any esiderable length of time in this climate. And now we find ourself at the proper to be for offering the suggestion promised the opening of this article.

Half a dolon years ago the people of South Alabana thought of keeping Irish poteter, and exasiderable length of time or about as Teslans appear to be thinking of it to day, but the Alabamians are now getting by . 'y over that kind of notion, They are inding that they can been their carry spring polatoes in good condition on o and through the next winter, if they debe to do so. A ploneer in this potatoteeping business, and he may have been the first in it for aught we know, was a Mr. Rogers living at Mount Vernon, Ala. Here is his plan as given to us a few years ago while on a visit to his place for the purnese of inquiring into his method:

Dig your potatoes when thoroughly ripethat is, when the skin will no longer slip besides should there be a fair local trade from them. Spread them in the sun to dry, | for small melons you will be sure to have but do not leave them long enough exposed | enough of them to meet the demand with- attractions for the truck farmer lie in its to become "sun-burned." A slight sunburn would not injure their keeping qualities, but would be against their eating quallties. Have a shed, barn or other building ready with an upper floor, and after your potatoes are well dried spread them thinly | come of themselves, a thing they will be upon this floor. It is best to have the lay or | sure to do.

other. Notice them daily for a week or so to see that no bruised specimens are show ing signs of rotting. You can tell such specimens at a giance, for a mould will be appearing upon them. All such specimens must be promptly removed, as their contact with sound specimens would be apt to -the potatoes will keep on through the summer. The main point is to keep them perfectly dry, and so laid that air can circulate freely about them. As the season styrnees they will wilt or shrivel a little but this will not injure them in the least. When you wish to use them put them in water an hour or so and they will swell out and appear as plump and fresh as if but the production of Irish potatoes for the gen- | just taken from the ground. Should you eral market is not undertaken at all. The | desire to market a barrel of potatoes, put ocal markets are supplied with them when | them in an open flour barrel over night and pour water enough among them to give them a thorqueh wetting. Next morning they will be all right for market. In every

> We gave this plan to the public at the time named and it has since been quite exensively adouted with entire satisfaction. ome improvements on the "up stairs" barn floor have been made in an open floor composed of laths or slats. We regard the imgrovement as a good one, for it admits of a better circulation of air than the tight floor could do. Under such an arrangement a building might be filled wih floors just far enough above each other to admit of passing between and hence be made to hold a large quantity of potatoes.

> The main point, as annually stated, is to keen the potnines entirely dry and well The stage briefers is much damper it South Ambanua from In Texas, while thus is much use e wind in Texas than in Ala banca. Figure these circumstances then could exist on kind of good, regson for any posing that trish potators would not keep as well through the summer here as therethe conditions favoring their keeping have much better development in Texas than in Alabama.

It is searcely needful for us to add that in use of lecping the potatoes in too cool weather it would then be necessary to remove them from their summer dryhouse to quarters where they would have protection

SIS MELON CULTURE. Col. I. C. Lakely, one of the most suc to his methods of managing the crop. We could have preferred that the paper re ate specially to melon culture in Texas but knowing no preminent grower here we advessed Cel. Lakely; but really them, the principle is about the same serviciberes fremen successful melon cu ture in Cleorgia if worked exactly on the some plan in Texas could not prove oth www.sc.than.everything.desired.

The urst thing," says Col. Lakely, " the soil upon which you are to plant. A soil silghtly sandy, if reasonably rich of made reasonably rich, is considered best Any good and well-drained soil may be made to give entire satisfaction, but the beavy clay soil calls for a slight differhand must, in every case, be deeply broken and thoroughly pulverized. Ther are persons who seem to think that hole deeply dug out for the hill phatically, a mistake. It is the nature of the watermeion to run its moots into the coll fully as fer as its vines run atop of

it. Then the watermelon is a tap-root plant, sending a series of roots well down old in this way through a period of at into the soil to find that moisture which east two months. Our sumplus, after the combles it to flourish to perfection through the druest of weather." We may be a run in a statement made by Mr. I. B. Root, the sted Illinois reclan enswer, as follows:

Or, Livingstone, in his African travels, tells as of passing for twenty-one days through one continuous field of wild watermelons on plains otherwise quite barren. The winter rains, which in that latrude are wurm, sprout the seeds, when the tap-root at once strikes downward until it eaches a norizon of permanent moisture, ust as it does with its. Reaching this noisture the drouth of the African summer cannot kill the plant, but enables in the produce fruit of unusually five quality, in quite a similar way does it flourish or own prairies, varying in the fact that t calls upon man to plant, till and protect t from such west and grass enchiles as to not exist on those African plains. nothing whatever against the watermelon, neither is drouth, provided t has facilities for getting down its tap-Then that very heat and drouth which gives an abundant yield and superio also creates in man an appetite for

'Many melon growers," continues Col. Lakely, "seem to have some idea of that ap root business, and this idea may be the hing causing them to dig out a deep hole for each hill. These heles are a mistake, They gather water with each rain, which, should the ground be of a clayer character, stands in them as in a basin, until it stagnates more or less. Any such conditions as his seriously damage the plants. A deep hele is always needed, sure enough, but it must be a big hole-large enough to embrace the entire patch without breaks. In word, the soil must not be broken deeper at one point than another; it must all be pulverized well down-fully twelve inches is not deeper than necessary for first-class success in watermelon culture.

"Check off your rows so as to have your hills ten feet apart each way. This is the prevailing rule, though for myself, I would prefer tweive feet. You might get more melous by planting nearer together than twelve or even ten feet, but they would not be so large. It is the large molons even though in smaller numbers, that brings in his profits to the grower. People always pick for the largest melons, and they are usually willing to pay for them as large melons. For local trade one can usually run off a goodly number of small meions, at low figures, but it will never pay to ship small melons a long distance: out attempting to raise them. Plant as you may there will always be a comidera- shipping qualities. You can ship it as far ble sprinkling of small melons. Every melon grower should set his plans for only | dled, get it through without bruise or large melons, allowing the small melons to blemish,

here comes in the suggested variation that may be necessary in different soils: If your soil is of a sandy character and rich enough for a good crop of corn, you have nothing to do other than plant your melon seeds in the checks, covering them with fine mould to the depth of about two inches. If not rich enough for a good crop of corn I should have been made so at the prepara tion, and the manural agent worked well through the soil. If a stiff clay soil, you should rake out at each check a hill six of eight inches deep and three feet in diame ter, filling with some kind of loose soil cor taining a large proportion of decomposed vegetable matter. If the land is good, it makes no particular difference as to what the vegetable matter is, provided, always, that it is well rotted. The object of the vegetable matter is to prevent the land from packing around the young plants, which always start of feebly. If there is any particular pack they will not be able to push out their roots, but when once established they will take care of themselves and the after-culture, yet to be described, will provide for their root extension.

"In planting it is always best to put in plenty of seeds, as watermelon seeds are a little uncertain in germinating. I would never start with less than twelve seeds to he hill no matter how good the seeds may appear to be. If all come up and show promise of thriftiness thin down to five in the hill. When these appear to be pretty well established thin down to three of the best plants in the hill, and afterwards when about starting to run, thin down to two in the hill, which will be your regular stand. In planting it is always best to firm the soil a little over the seeds by patting upon it with the back of the hoe. This guards against drying out and damage while the eeds are swelling.

"Cultivation should begin so soon as the plants are well up. Stir the soil well down lose to the hills, and continue going over he oatch about once in ten days until the unning vines stop you. When the vines are started to run keep your cultivation drictly outside of their reach. Never dis urb the soil nearer the rows than the endof the vines, and never, under any consideration, move the vines. If weens or grass appear inside the range of the vines remove bem with a hoe or by hand. As the vines attain to a few feet in length place small lods upon them here and there to prevent heir being moved by the wind. Don't, on any account, forget that the vines must never be moved. This is, undoubtedly, one of the most important things in watermelon culture. You can never get good results from vines that have been moved. When your culture is finished arrange so that the and will be left level. Leave no waterfurrows between the rows, for these would simply obstruct the passage of fine roots which would need to pass the center be ween the rows.

"This is all there is in watermelon culure. It has always made the crop a plendid success with me, and with all whom I have known to strictly follow the

Of course good seed of good varieties auch to do with successful meion c Several correspondents have writt us to recommend the best varietie are now so many good varieties sublic that we could scarcely feel at liberty to reccommend any particular one of them. There is one thing, however, that we can

same vine, took the first premium for melons at the Ohio state fair, the four melons together weighing 342 pounds. They were raised and offered by a Mr. Browne of Ohio.

Seeds of the Cuban Queen are of a dark brownish color thickly dotted with specks I tasseling of all at the same time. a shade darker, presenting a kind of mottled or grainy appearance. Each side of the beak is marked by a short black stripe. Seeds not so colored and so marked could not be trusted as genuine.

from correspondents, and therefore must not be accepted as an effort on our part to Evidently it is, as yet, the largest growing melon under cultivation-most of the seed catalogues will tell you this, and, as already stated, its shipping qualities are unquestionably first-class. Its introduction certainly marks the beginning of extremely large growing melons for this country, but later other targe growing melens, evidently off-shoots from the Cuban Queen, have appeared, and some of them, as Kolb's gem, Burpee's ronclad and others are fairly popular. have had no experience with any of these established new qurities, but think them all good. Our only interest in the Cuban perience (having been the first to grow it from North American soil), we know it to be entirely good for the truck-farmer who purposes shipping his product to a distant

#### THERE IS MONEY IN HOPS.

We have said through these columns about everything that could be said with reference to hop culture for Texas. We have clearly shown that the crop could be successfully grown here and made profitable, and one of our leading citizens, who was once engaged in hop culture in another state, has favored our readers with full directions for cultivating and managing the gross And now, through the Lynden Press, state of Washington, comes an article show ing what there is in hop culture up therea region far less favorable for the crop than Texas. The Press says: "Mr. A. A. Judd has leased his hop field of twenty acres to Winkler Bros. The value of the crop last year was \$15,000. It will run fully as high this year. This is an immense amount to be derived from one field. He says the cost of harvesting and marketing the crop will not exceed \$2000, which amount will be put in circulation in Lynden. By the above t will be seen that the Winkley Bros. and Mr. Judd will not a clear return of \$13,000 or more from their twenty acres, which far exceeds the return of any other crop on ter times the amount of land."

#### ON CROSSING CORN.

Few things could be easier than crossing different varieties of corn. Any boy on the farm may make as many crosses as he de ires to make without involving trouble sufficient to be at all worthy of mention. It is very interesting. He can at the next harvest time have for exhibition ears of orn that he knows to be half and half of wo different varieties. The ears may sho variation from the corn pro there all the same, and next crop raised The change in the ne e so great as to astonish one



THE CUBAN QUEEN

now before t

made by co

purposely.

say. It is never safe to attempt raising narket melons from seed one knows nothing about. Scrub melons are a little like scrub attle-they will not at all do to depen pon for good prices. It is always best to say a little more to some reliable seedsman for seeds of some good named variety suited. to the purpose of the grower, than to take any risk on seeds whose variety cannot be vouched for.

Since our publication in these columns of description of the Cuban Queen waternelon, with a bit of history showing fifteen years ago it was introducfrom Cube. much interest on the Texans has been manifested in ticular variety. Numerous legi-been received asking where seed of ricty could be had. To all we have stated that the seed could be had of any prominent seed house, for the Cuban Queen has long been held into prominence as a standard. A letter received last week asked us to describe the appearance of the Cuban Queen melon. The illustration on this page will convey a better idea of the general appearance of the melon than we could give by words. It is striped, as you will see. The dark stripes are of a moderately dark green color while the light stripes are only enough lighter than the dark stripes to make them sharp in contrast. There is a preculiarity in the outline of every perfect swedmen-the blossom end is invariably larger than the stem end as appears in the illustration. The iliustration is entirely perfect in all respects save color. It was made expressly for us from the photograph of a specimen weighing 113 pounds.

The outer rind of the Cuban Queen is very tough and never liable to crack. The inserrind or white portion of the melon may be said to average about three-fourths of an inch in thickness, also very touch In color the flesh is about medium in point of shade between the light red and dark red of a meion. It is sugary and very good, but not quite so delieste in flavor as the "Georgia watermeles" and some other smaller-growing varieties that might be named. It invariably gives good satisfaction as an eating melon; but its greatest extraordinarily large size and superior as you like and, unless very roughly han-

cellence. Mo

public have been

It is interesting to cross corn and watch the results even with no particular object in view, but actuated by an object one may ure many desired qualities in a new seed . For instance, we may have a variety good corn carrying an objection in matureither too early to too late. We may e by crossing with racter in that is too y variete it with some late variety some particular purpose v with some large va

Where two varieties ripening a same time if planted at the same time are to be crossed, the necessary process is as easy as eating. We will suppose that you are planting a main crop of some variety which you would like to cross on some other variety. To effect this cross your plant here and there about in the field a few hills of the variety you propose to cross upon, taking care to mark the hills with a stob or by some other means that will enable you to find them at any time. Nothing further is to be done until the corn is just starting to 'tassel out," that is, the top of the tassel is but just beginning to show. This is the critical time. You must now visit those hills and cut off every tassel on them. This | full development which they would otherends the work until you are ready to gather the ears. Those hills of corn will bear ears the same as if nothing had happened, but each ear will undoubtedly be a cross-half one variety and half the other.

To cross a late variety on an early varicty or an early variety on a late variety calls for something a little more complicated. Suppose you are crossing an early variety on a late variety. You will need to have some knowledge of how long time each variety runs from the planting to the tasseling, for to secure a cross each variety must tassel at exactly the same time. If the nills to be planted here and there in the field to receive the cross are of a variety The Cuban Queen is an unusually rank | earlier than the main crop, you must degrower and very prolific. Some ten years lay the planting of those hills to such a

to reverse the performance so as to have the late variety bear the crossed ears you must plant your hills long enough ahead of the main crop of early corn to secure the

In case where one cannot get at the length of time between planting and tasseling so as to bring the two varieties together correctly, the time can be guessed at as nearly as possible and made to work by This minute discription of the Cuban planting the experimental hills a few days Queen is simply in response to requests apart in succession. The hills can be watched at the tasseling time of the main crop, and such of them as are then showing the end boost it as the very best melon grown. of the tassel can be marked and the tassels cut off for the cross. It would be folly to expect a cross where the tasseling was not exactly together. An explanation of how this method works

may be of some benefit to the boys who

have never studied such things as yet. The corn is what we call a monoclous plant, which means a plant bearing two distinct sets of flowers, one set being all male or staminate flowers and the other set being ail female or pistillate flowers. In the tassel of the corn we have the male flowers, while in the silks we have the female flowers. There is a fine vellow dust in the tassel known as pollen dust. Unless some of this dust falls upon the silk there can be no grain. You find this last well illustrated in a single stalk of corn growing off to itselfthe ear is seldom full for the reason that winds blow the pollen dust away, not allowing enough of it to fall upon the silk to se cure perfect fertilization. It takes one grain of pollen dust on the silk for every grain of corn on the cob. Where corn is planted together in patches the dust is blown about and enough of it lodges upon the silks to insure perfect fertilization. Now, when you have removed the tasselfrom your experimental hills before the pollen dust has ripened the silks on those hills cannot be otherwise than fertilized by pollen dust from the other variety, with a full cross as the inevitable result.

### OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

This department is devoted to unswering such questions as may be asked by our subscribers, which may be of general information. Inquiries of personal character that require answer by mail should always have stamp inclosed. Please give full name and postoffice address in addition to any such signature as "Subscriber," or "A 1," D, not for publication, if against the will of the writer, but to admit of direct communication should such a thing be decined necessary. Address as directed at head of this page.

A GOOD GRASS FOR NAME.

Enclosed you will find for identification, a few heads of grass. It has been green all through the winter, and is now just beginning to head out. Will you please give us through The Gazerric the name, etc., of this grass, and much oblige. Cleburne, Tex., April 3.

Your grass is the Festuca pratensis of potanists. In different localities it is known by various countries as meadow fescue," Randall grass," "ever green grass," etc. It is not a native of Texas, but an introduction; indeed, grows more or less in most of the lower outhern states. Mr. James Taylor of North Carolina, writing to the United States department of agriculture, says of t that it grows well on rocky soils, afford or fine pasture for cattle and shee pasture grasses. It is, furthernore, much grown as a hay grass n many portions of the old country, where it is sown as other regular tame grasses. The plan of sowing it there is with the crop of spring oats, about one peck of well-cleaned seed being given to the sere. Here we might put it in with our crop of fall-sown outs. The seeds weigh fourteen pounds to the bushel. We have no information as to whether or not the seed is anywhere on sale in this country.

# THE STATE VETERINARIAN.

I am a subscriber to your paper and take much interest in the department devoted o farming. As such, I beg leave to ask a few questions of special importance to u farmers of this portion of the state. W believe that we have glanders among ou orses here, and we want the address of the state veterinarian. We think it is necessary that he should come here, and we wis whose expense he will come Will the state pay for canned by him? Please N. J. Lindow. W. J. Undow.

es, and nothing whatever with reference to the ules governing in such case It is a singular fact that the departm for which we are doing our heaviest work offer the least recognition of our efforts, leaving us to work out everything for ourself the best we can. It would almost eem as if they regard what we are doing a the light of a privilege condescendingly inted us. If there is a state veterinarian happen to see this, will he

ou consider beans eaten me evils as good for seed as b

eaten? The question seems to 8 one, some persons contending that the weevil never touches the vital part of the bean, and that therefore it is not injured for planting, while others contend other ise. Please answer through THE GAZETTE.
Whoo, Texas. Lady GARDENER. Beans bored by weevils should never be

used as seed if it can possibly be avoided, for they are never reliable. They may germinate (many of them will), and the resultant plants may grow, but such plants will invariably be weak and runted at the start, and therefore will never reach the wise have attained. It is with plants a good deal as with livestock-one can never expect a runted calf or a runted colt to develop into the highest type of its species at maturity.

A bean, as you must know, is divided into two parts or halves; on rather, as we might say, three parts. There are two outer parts called cotyledons by botonists. and an inner part called the plumule. The latter is the living or germinating part of the eed-the embryo plant-while the two former are simply little hampers of food which the new plant carries with it in its journey up out of the ground, and from which it must draw its supplies until old enough to "wean," as it were. In other words the matter of those "hampers" must

strong enough to take its sustenance from other sources. So, we see, if in its course the weevil happens to destroy the plumule. there can be no plant; but if it misses this and confines its work to the cotyledons, a plant may appear, but it will be a starved and hence runted plant in proportion to the quantity of matter removed by the insect Nature provides no surplus for such an emergency. In the cotyledous there is but just food enough to supply the needs of the young plant, hence when a weev'll has been in the bean it cannot be otherwise than damaged as a seed.

#### OWN YOUR HOME.

I am so well pleased with your depart-nent of The Gazerre that I often find my fingers itching with a desire to contribute something to it. To-day I get out of the way and let my fingers go off in a word of advice to young men. It is not exactly an agricultural subject that I propose advising on, though it may be of as much use to young agriculturists as to others. It is

Now, let me show you the importance of taking this advice. I will suppose that you are a young man beginning in life with ample ineans. You buy a home, paying \$10,000 for it. It is for rent, so you let it out at 7 per cent upon its cost, clear of in-surence, taxes and repairs. In ten years this rent properly handled will have amounted to a sam equaling the original investment. At the end of ten years, therefore, your rents will build you another house like the first, making you worth \$20,000. In twenty years, your rents on all your property will build three such houses; in thirty years, seven; in forty years, fitteen; in fifty years thirty-one; in sixty years, sixty-three, and in seventy years, 127 houses. Supposing the property to have stood on a level as to value through all this ne, after seventy toars of a busing red on the original investment of \$ 000, you will be worth \$1,270,000. All this vast amount has been added to your bank account by people who did not own their

This is a serious thing when we come to look at it aright. Large numbers of per-sons rent homes, but comparatively few think of the transaction as it really is. It is always best to own one's property, even though not so line as property one might rent. In many cases we might be able to manage in some way that would make the property over pgy interest on the money invested in buying it; we could do it is adding improvements to the property show no other plan suggest itself. A Critical Fort Worth, Tex.

Our correspondent has so well made is case that any comment by us would be imply superfluous. His fetter clearly exdains why some men get rich without my apparent effort on their part, while other emain poor through life. Of course the \$10,000 put at interest by the young more and properly managed all along would have panned out precisely the same as the iouses. It is the man making a proper the of what he has who gets rich without an apparent effort-he is the fellow who turns to gold everything he touches," as

# POPULAR SCIENCE.

THE BOTANICAL PAMPHLETS OF PROFESSOR BUCKLEY.

The Indian Territory Gold Fields-Valua ble Minerals of Texas A New Rallroad Car Cause of La Grippe. The Greatest Waterfall.

An Austin correspondent writes us tha move in favor of a complete botan was "Notes on New Texas still another "The Grasses of Texas," is his opinion that in the event of not so having the proposed exhaustive work under way we ought to get those pamphlets to gether ere they are entirely lost and prin them in book form.

Professor Robert T. Hill. in an editor for the American Geologist, April issays the occurrence of gold in the India Perritory has been the cause of period mineral excitements for several years. H examine the regions wherein the gold urs. There are two of these, one Pishomingo, in the Chickasaw Natio the other in the Wichita mountai the Comang e reservation. In both itions are favorable for its, consisting of igneous con-

ist rights and well sition to investigation of the present Indian proprietors prevent any careful exploration, while even reconnois sance is accompanied by danger,

the same issue of the American Geolo Professor Hill says there are many valde materials in Texas awaiting develop chaik and cretaceous

ed into by a competent expert excepts the interest of private par-ties. Suppose building stones and structural he interest of private parmaterials are here in inexhaustible quantities, while the conditions for manufacturing improved artificial Portland cementssuch as America is now entirely dependent apon Europe for-exists in the chalk districts of Texas, in marvelous supplies. In the rarers minerals the state is exceedingly rich, but in nearly every case where inves tigated these have proved of little quantity except in the trans-Pecos region where there is undoubtedly valuable silver ditricts. In the small paleozoic area of the Burnet district from which the overlaying cretaceous beds have been eroded there is a greater diversity of rare minerals than in any other spot in America, over thirty of the known chemical elements including many of the rarer elements such as yttrium thorium, etc., having been found at a sing locality (Barringer hill) by Dr. Ede Everhart of the State university.

A Mobile (Ala.) man has just invented a new car which well-informed railroaders say will undoubtedly soon come into general use. One of its most striking features rests in an independent action of each wheel, there being no connecting axles. This doe away with all friction and sliding on rur ning curves. The wheels or trucks are s in a strong frame work, and are of th so thin that no potntees will lie atop of each | "And now you are ready to plant, and ago four melons of this variety, all on the time as would bring the tasseling simulta- feed it until it has grown large enough and I usual size and, with the exception of four,

of the usual make. These four are o above the number now used and occur position under the center of the o They are without flanges and the brain work muon them. The flangeless tirse the brakes far more effectiveness that ould have on trucks with flances.

A Chicago scientist (Dr. Gentza), sehe discovery of a new microbe. the w eing none other than the little fellow toration of numerous la grippe pat No other known microbe any prominent particular, at all crobes yet seen it is the most agilsortlen to size. After the first d method of capture, was found to b them. Chicago is now severely

Dr. O. M. Myers of oports a similar discovery torations, though he did no the game on the five Ren Gentry's discovery he save: " that both of us have secu unicrosorganisms. That this germ theory would not on

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